LEXINGTION. THE COUNCIL-ROOM OF JOHN HANCOCK AND SAMUEL ADAMS-THE OLD BANCOCK HOUSE AND THE CANVAS PAVILION-PATRICITSM AND SMALL PROFITS-REMINISCENCES AT EVERY TURN-IN-SCRIPTIONS ON THE HOUSES-THE VISITORS.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] HANCOCK HOUSE, LEXINGTON, Mass., April 17 .-It is not difficult to realize the truth of history, and to have a genuine interest in the events of a hundred years 2go, when one sits down to write in the very room where John Haucock and Samuel Adams held counsel on the night before the battle of Lexington, and from which they were driven by the warning voice of hard-riding couriers who brought the news from Boston that "the Regulars were coming." This is the very room, and, thanks to the jealous care of the venerable owner, it is to-day just as it was on that eventful night. The great, broad fire-place, the substantial floor, and wainscoting of bard-pine, even the curiously-figured wall-paper (pasted on in rectangular blocks instead of in long strips as nowadays) are those upon which Hancock and Adams gazed when the fate of the Colonies hung in a balance upon the scenes of the following day. There is the plain and painfully low desk on which the statesmen wrote, and the chairs in which they were seated; and as to the andirons, curious flat-irous, spinning-wheel, and other household utensils. "Well," said our octogenarian guide, "they all belong to the same lotnot one of 'em less than a hundred years old. A century old, Sir, beyond a doubt." It is interesting to see with what reverence every object in this house is regarded by the Lexingtonians; and well they may value it and its contents, for few people have such an opportunity of taking an inside view of the homes of their great-grandfathers. This part of the house was built by the Rev. ("Bishop") John Hancock in 1698, and the front was added about 1733, by one of his sons. The successor of the Rev. John Hancock was the Rev. Jonas Clark, by whose name the house is now best known in this community. A goodly volume might be made of the stories told of these men and their dwelling-place. But do not be alarmed; this correspondent is not going to undertake the

THE STREETS AND THE COMMON. I find "Ceptennial" written in some form over nearly every house in this historic but very modern looking and thrifty town. The people have thought of little else for weeks, and during the last few days the event of next Monday has been food, drink, and sleep to them. Arriving at the depot, the first view is of one mass of canvas forming a pavilion sheltering many acres, while smaller tents are scattered about in a way strikingly suggestive of the sideshows at a county fair. The largest tent of all is on the common which was the scene of the battle. It is said to have a seating capacity of 8,000. Here the speaking will take place, and on Monday night the great ball will be held in the same place. Not far away is another tent, not quite so large, in which the tables are already set for a dinner for 3,529 persons. Both of these canvas-covered halls have substantial floors, are well protected from stormy weather, and are lighted with gas. Over toe main entrance to the common stretches a massive but not particularly imposing arch on which appears this inscription: "Welcome to the Birthplace of American Liberty." Flags are everywhere; flags of all nations and flags of no nation; the Navy-Yards of Charlestown, New-York, and Portsmonth were ransacked for them. Any householder who has n't half a dozen flags to display on the Centennial day doubtless considers himself in a miserable plight. Pretty strings of colors depend from the tall flagstaft on the common stretching diagonally across to either corner. A large banner on one of these strings bears the legend, "Too few to resist, too brave to fly," while another is inscribed with words attributed to the gallant Capt. Parker, one of the heroes whose patriotism is commemorated-"Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have war, let it begin here." In the midst of all this patriotic display there are indications of a disposition to turn an honest penny, which is characteristic, and I suppose refreshments and for seducing the idle nickel from the pocket of the rural pleasure-seeker in other ways bid fair to be abundant, and a handbill conspicuously displayed in various places announces that "the lumber used in building the pavilion and diningroom" will be sold immediately after the celebration and on the ground, "in lots to suit purchasers." A good many dollars will be made, too, by the sale of seats commanding desirable views of the great procession, and the florists give notice that they will be on hand to enable the patriotically disposed to render

"Flora's tribute to the dead of the Revolution." THE STORY TOLD BY THE HOUSES.

The Town Hall or Memorial Hall containing the Cary Library is a building very creditable to Lexington, and it is very tastefully decorated for the Centennial. Here I found a large collection of Revolutionary relics. Over the portal is the inscription. "Lexington consecrates this hall and its emblems to the memory of the Founders and the Defenders of statues, the one, that of a Minute Man, commemorating Lexington's dead in the Revolution, and the other, that of a Volunteer of 1861, Lexington's dead in the Rebellion. A tablet near the former bears

The Piedge and its Redemption.

Response of Lexington to the Appeal of Beston, December, 1773.

"We trust in God that should the state of our affairs require it, we shall be ready to sacrifice our estates and everything dear in life, yen and life itself, in support of the common cause."

the common cause."

Names of the citizens of Lexington
who fell in Freedom's cause, April 19, 1775.

Englyn Robt. Munroe, Jonus Parker, Caleb Barrington,
Fasned Hadley, Jouathan Harrington, Jr., John Brown,
Isaac Mozzey, Jedediah Munroe, John Raymond, Nathaniel Wyman.
"They poured out their generous blood like water, before they knew whether it would ferthize the land of Preedom or of Bondage."—[Webster.

The years the state of th

The vacant niches in the Memorial Hall are re served for the statues of Samuel Adams and John Hancock, whose personal and particular connection with the town of Lexington was recalled in the historical sketch heretofore published in The Tribune. These statues have not yet arrived from Europe, although shipped, one from Liverpool and the other from Leghorn, long ago; and for days the people en anxious lest something should happen to prevent their being in Lexington before the anniversary of the battle. They cost \$1,000 apiece, the sculptors making an extraordinary deduction from the usual price of such work. The purchase money was raised with hard work and from many sources by these patriotic people. Only a few days ago Mrs. Maria Cary, widow of W. II. Cary, and a daughter of Lexington, now residing in New-York, sent a check for \$1,000 to Charles Hudson, the antiquarian and historian of the town, as her contribution toward this object. I hear, as I write, that one of the statues arrived in Beston to-day; everything is in readiness to bring

them here at the shortest notice. The High-school building is shadowed by a large arch with the following mottoes: "1775, British Caunon; 1875, The School Book." "On this spot, April 19, 1775, Lord Percy planted his cannon to protect the retreating British troops." More interesting is the time-worn Munroe Tayern. Here we find the reminders: "Pillaged by the Regulars on their return, April 19, 1775;" and "Munroe's Tavera, 1775, Percy's Headquarters and Hospital for Regulars;" while the old sign we have so often read about, with the words, "Entertainment for

whole story of the great day in the annals those in this town. In the residence of D. W. Muzzey, "the home of a victim of the first fire of the British." On the house in which I write, "The home of Parson Clarke-the Refuge of Hancock and Adams;" on a house near the junction of Woburn and Main-sts., "Home of Benjamin Merriam, 1775. Taken for a hospital by the Regulars, April 19, 1775." On the house of R. H. Merriam the memorable words of Samuel Adams, "What a glorious day for America!" An old building on Elm-ave. is marked as "the home of Jonathan Harrington, jr., who was shot on the battle-field and died on his own threshold;" another "the home of Daniel Harrington, Clerk of Parker's company;" and still another as "the home of Caleb Harrington, one of the immortal eight who fell April 19, 1775." Directly opposite the common is the residence of John Hudson, which is over a hundred years old. Here rooms are provided for the use of visiting members of the Press. Into this house ran two of the patriots, one of them wounded, who were surprised by the British in an attempt to get some powder which had been stored in the meeting-house for the use of the Provincials. We eannot look in any direction without seeing some reminder of the massacre by Piteairn's soldiers.

THE TWO CELEBRATIONS.

The appearance of the town, the character of the people, and the arrangements for the day all indicate that the celebration at Concord will be the more aristocratic of the two observances of the occasion. The clean, well-kept walks at Concord have been swept with even more than usual care, the eigns which mark the many historic spots are boldly painted in black on white pine boards, as if to make sure that none should miss seeing the old meetinghouse where gathered the first Provincial Congress, the old tavern where Major Pitcairn made his bloody boast, the provincial store-house, and the site of the old court-house. The houses which the events of the day made famous in Lexington are designated only by strips of canvass with legends painted in a less self-asserting way. The blood at Concord may be no bluer than at Lexington, but the names of Ralph Waldo Emerson and E. Rockwood Hoar have a fame that is national, while those of Hudson and Stetson are provincial. Then, too, note the scrupulous exactness with which the order of the procession has been arranged at the former place. It is an old saying at Harvard, annually repeated, "Who will know how to determine the order of precedence at Commencement when old Sibley is no longer there?" Some may well say: "Who in 1975 can arrange the line of distinguished guests with such nice and delicate appreciation of the rank and station as is shown in the order to-day?" The common observer will not see that Concord's arrangement is any better than that of Lexington, but let him ask Mr. Sibley and he could give him an answer why each person should be assigned precisely that place and no other. At Lexington the Governor follows the President, at Concord he precedes him, and in the Lexington proession a place has been assigned the Collector of the Port of Boston, who, by the way, has won the sincere thanks and gratitude of the Committee of Arrangements for the vigorous efforts he has made to secure the prompt delivery of the Hanand the Adams statues. The Concord Committee even in the day of their rejoicing could not forgive Simmons, and if he ventures to join them it will only be as an unbidden guest. To slight the Collector of the Port is not an unpardonable sin, for the President, whom he is often called upon to represent on festive occasions, is to be there in person, but it is said that their implacability has gone further. Gen. Butler, though living in the same county, not twenty miles away-when he is not running for Congressis reported not to have been invited. This slight is the more marked for he is the Major-General commanding the militia of Massachusetts, which will be represented there by a full regiment. No one seems to know whether he will be present or not.

THE CELEBRATION AT LEXINGTON.

TOWN AGLOW WITH ZEAL AND ENJOYMENT-TIMELY ARRIVAL OF THE ADAMS AND HANCOCK TUES-THE SUNDAY SERVICES AT LEXINGTON HELD WITHIN DOORS-THE GREAT CROWDS. [BY TELEGRAPH FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

LEXINGTON, April 18 .- Both Concord and Lexington have put forth all their energies to make the display to-morrow as brilliant as possible. The display of bunting in Concord is not only more profuse than at Lexington, but is disposed with more taste and variety of design. Lexington has a gayer and more festive air, and the town is all aglow with democratic zeal and enjoyment. Although the ceremonies do not tproperly begin until Monday, yet crowds of people came out from Boston to-day and there is no doubt that, if the trains had run as on week days, there would have been almost as many people in either town as will be found there to-morrow. There will be danger-unless better provision is made for feeding the uninvited multitude than is probable, judging from the way in which hotels and eating booths are provided with food to-day-that the crowd will make a foray on the caterer's tables and sweep them clean in self-defense. our Free Institutions." Within are two striking Full price is charged for a very stingy meal of very poor victuals. The greatest anxiety has been felt, lest the statues of John Hancock and Samuel Adams should not arrive in time, but they are now both here, and have been set in their places on the platform. The statue of John Hancock is by Gould, and that of Adams by Millmore. According to the contract they were both to have been delivered in Lexington on the first day of January, but they did not leave Italy until the end of the month; and it is certainly a happy coincidence that, though one came from Italy by sailing vessel direct to Boston and the other by steamer from Liverpool, they both arrived off the coast within twenty-four of each other. The Hon. Charles Hudson had made arrangements with the officers of the Custom-house, and the statues were sent forward without any delay, reaching the end of their long journey in good order.

In Concord the quiet of the Sabbath, usually so marked in that village, was broken by maneuvering of the military, two or three companies of militia going through their exercises on the green, and finally marching off to church, where the Rev. Mr. Cook delivered a discourse on the result of the Concord fight. The beautiful marching of a company from St. Albans, Vt., delighted a large company of spectators gath-

ered from the surrounding towns.

In Lexington the crowd seemed to find pleasure snough in looking at the tents and visiting the sites made memorable by the incidents of the fatal 19th

Considering how largely the crowd was made up of straugers to the two towns, it is remarkable how orderly it was. In fact the detachment of Boston police had nothing to do but walk around and show their immaculate uniforms and handsome faces. There was nobody for them to repress. The President visited both Lexington and Concord to-day. The turnout was very stylish, and no doubt the knowledge of his visit had much to do with the crowd. The streets of both villages swarmed with carriages of all descriptions, except shabby ones; and the Old Boston Road was like one long procession of vehicles, coming and going.

It had been the intention to have the evening ex ercises in Lexington take pisce in the tent where the ball is to be held; but as the hour approached, man and beast," rests where it did a hundred years | the cold, which has been intense all day, made ago. The inscriptions on the houses tell nearly the it necessary to adjourn to the Town Hall.

The crowd that filled the Hall was so dense that, a few minutes after the door was opened, it was not possible to get within 40 feet of the door. A great number of people then filled the ball tent, and were pacified with music from an excellent band from the town of Brockton. The exercises in the Hall consisted of a voluntary, the singing of the Te Denm, prayer, the Gloria from Mozart's Twelfth Mass, reading of the Scriptures, an original hymn, written for the occasion by

S. F. Smith, "Great and Marvelous," from the famous Mass in B flat; a discourse by the Rev. Wm. Adams, D. D.; an original bymn, written for the occasion by J. N. Tarbox, and the benediction.

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS PARTY IN CON-

THE ARRIVAL ON SATURDAY NIGHT-DELEGATIONS FROM VERMONT AND MAINE-SERVICES AT THE

UNITARIAN CHURCH-AN AFTERNOON DRIVE. [BY TELEGRAPH FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.] CONCORD, Mass., April 18 .- The sober village of Concord manifested as much excitement as was consistent with its dignity when the special train on which the President and other distinguished guests of Judge E. R. Hoar arrived from Boston last night. Previous to this arrival, however, martial strains at the depot announced the advent of a delegation of Green Mountain boys, in attractive uniforms, escorting Gov. Peck of Vermont and his staff, besides other prominent citizens of that State. Among the latter were Lieut.-Gov. Hinckley, State Treasurer John A. Page, Secretary of State George Nichols, State Auditor W. S. Ferrin, Quartermaster-Kingsley, Judge - Advocate - General Lercia, Surgeon-General Daniel Webster, C. A. Curtis, President of the Norwich University of Vermont, and United States Collector, Gen. Wells. The escort was composed of the Ransom Guard. At 9:30 o'clock the Presidential party arrived and were taken immediately to the residence of Judge Hoar. The crowd was evidently glad to see them, but a call for cheers did not receive an enthusiastic response. Mr. George William Curtis was honored by an invitation to spend the two days of his sojourn here at the house of Mr. Ralph Waldo Emerson, and is accordingly separated for the present from the guests who came in an official capacity, or in the retinue of the Presi-

To-day in Concord was little like the traditional New-England Sabbath, although there was an earnest effort to restrain enthusiasm until to-morrow. The Concord artillery company fell into line pretty early and marched to the depot to receive another expected installment of distinguished visitors. These came from Maine. Among them were Gen. Chamberlain, President of Bowdoin College, and Mayor Richardson and ex-Mayor Kingsley of Portland. These visitors were condially greeted and escorted to the quarters prepared for them at the hotel. After breakfast there was an exchange of courtesies between the few military companies in the town. A little later, the ringing of a bell announced that the old Unitarian Church was to be the scene of proceedings of some interest, and that historic edifice was soon filled to overflowing. The interior was prettily decorated with patriotic emblems, and in front of the pulpit was a large basket of flowers. The military companies were present, each mustering its full strength, and the Presidential party came in force. In due season the President walked up the aisle leaning upon the arm of Judge Hoar, and sat in the Judgo's pew, together with Mrs. Hoar and Secretaries Fish, Belknap, and Robeson. In the next pew were ex-Speaker Blaine and wife and Secretary Delane. The entrance of these visitors caused a loud hum of conversation, which subsided, however, when, from a skillfully handled organ, pealed forth the solemn anthem, "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth." The usual introductory services over, the pastor of the church, the Rev. Grindall Reynolds, preached an interesting sermon, con-

taining a number of historical allusions. The text of Mr. Reynolds's sermon was Isaiah, chap. 33, 'parts of 20th and 22d verses:

"Look upon Zion the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem, a quiet habitation. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our law giver; the Lord is

our King." in which the services were held. It was first occupied as a place of public worship in October, 1712. It was an old structure, therefore, when, in 1774, it first gave shelter to the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, Weatherbeaten, too, no doubt; for thus runs the Provincial record. In consideration of the coldness of the senson, and that Congress sat in a room without fire, it was "resolved that those members who incline thereto may sit with their bats on while in Congress." Here Congress declared to Gen. Gage that the sole end of the Government is the protection and security of the people; here were passed the rules and regulations which welded the militia of the State into a compact army; here other New-England States were invited to furnish their quota for the general defense; and here, finally, on the 15th of April was sent forth the proclamation for a day of fasting and prayer, every one of whose sentences was an appeal to Almighty God against tyranny. Before this church the British maneuvered on the day of battle, and here they later in the same day began their retreat. Here preached the Rev. Wm. Emerson, the patriot who consed his people to patriotic purposes, and who at length cave his life to his country. Not within the bounds of Middlesex is there another spot so vitally connected with the causes which preceded, and the results which succeeded the events of April 19, 1775. The Puritan meeeting-bouse stood the type and symbol of causes which, though not always expressed in words, coursed in the very blood of the people themselves, and gave to their words and to their deeds gravity, weight, and power. Beneath all material causes were spiritual causes, making the men of '75 what they were, and enabling them to accomplish what they did. The minister then gave the religious interpretation of the foundation of our Government, and in that deep respect for law which grew up in the New-England mind, and which was never more characteristic of it mind, and which was never more characteristic of it than in the period of the Revolution. When the Legislature made its final break with Gov. Gage, at Salem, its last act was to declare the illegality of the proceedings of the royal officer and the legality of its own proceedings. In conclusion it was said by the preacher that we shall be the children of our fathers, if we see to it that the law is to us what it was to the fathers, the best expression of the Divine will in the social state to which man has attained; if we keep human law abreast with the noblest moral and spiritual thought and ideas of the age, and make it the clean record of man's progress in Divine wisdom, the bright transcript of God's righteous will, the steady promoter of all human welfare and happiness. Mr. Reynolds's only reference to the President and Cabinet was in his closing prayer.

After the services the congregation quietly dispersed, and the President and other guests of Judge Hoar indulged in the luxury of a drive, with which they were occupied about an hour.

At night the President held a private reception at the residence of Judge Hoar, which was attended by many of the dignitaries in town. At the late hour at which this is written the streets are still filled with people, and the excitement is so great that many will not sleep before the Centennial celebration is over. than in the period of the Revolution. When the

PAUL REVERE'S RIDE.

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES IN THE OLD NORTH CHURCH-LARGE CROWDS IN ATLENDANCE -- A GRANDSON AND A GREAT GRANDSON OF PAUL REVERE PRESENT - ADDRESSES BY HENRY WALKER, DR. LORING, AND THE REV. ROBERT C. WATTERSON-THE HANGING OF THE LANTERNS. BY TELEGRAPH FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF

Boston, Mass., April 18 .- All Boston turned out | England colleges, Governors of other States, and

of doors to-night to witness the realistic commemoration of one of the ways by which the information of the departure of the British treeps across Charles River, on the march to Concord, was conveyed to the towns and villages in country. Nearly 15,000 people walked miles to get into a church which could not comfortably accommodate as many hundreds. As long as the light in the belfry tower of the old North Church shone forth, all the approaches leading to that time-honored edifice were crowded with people gazing at the lights or trying to elbow their way to the doors, which to them were as inaccessible for the

time as those of Trinity Church in New-York. Paul Revere was a good deal more talked about, I dare say, than ever before-more even than on the day of the Concord fight, 100 years ago. One could hear the boys and girls on almost every street corner repeating in a sing-song way:

If the British march By land or sea from the town to-night, Have a lantern aloft in the belfry arch Of the Old North Church tower as a signal light, One if by land and two if by sea; And I on the opposite shore will be, Ready to ride and spread the plarm Through every Middlesex village and farm

For the country folk to be up and arm. The scene within the church was brilliant. Flags and flowers appeared everywhere. Among those present were Vice-President Wilson and Mr. Geo. W. Childs of the Presidential party, Gen. Hawley of Connecticut, John Revere, a grand-son of Paul Revere; Nathaniel Adams President of the Massachusetts Mechanics, Association, of which Paul Revere was the first President; Gov. Gaston of Massachusetts, Dr. Geo. B. Loring, and Mayor Cobb of Boston. The lanterns were hung out in the tower by Robert Newman, son of the sexton of the church who performed the same duty a hundred years ago, when the British took up their line of march.

The services were opened with singing, after which an appropriate prayer was offered by the rector of the church, the Rev. Henry W. Burroughs. Col. Henry Walker of Boston then delivered an address replete with interesting historical reminiscences and traditions. Robert Newman, who next spoke, was seated between the grandson and great-grandson of Paul Revere. He gave an interesting account of the hero of the bour, showing that he was a man of no ordinary character, and that his life was full of good deeds. Dr. Loring was the next speaker. After a pleasing address from the Rev. Robert C. Watterson, Gen. R. Hawley of Connecticut was introduced and spoke briefly. He brought forward the claims of Israel Bissell, another bold riding here of the early days of the Revolution, who carried the news of Lexington and Concord through Connecticut, rousing the people to sympathy and cooperation with their brothers in Massachusetts, and calling on them to arm for self-defense and independence. The services were closed with a benediction by the Rev. Dr. Vinton. Before and after the exercises the chimes of the church-the oldest on the continent, but certainly retaining a sweet and mellow sound-rang out with the good old tunes of the eighteenth century, greatly to the delight of the crowd in the streets. The officers of the City Government assembled at the City Hall and went to the church in a body, escorting the invited guests. A considerable part of the floral decorations were con-

tributed by descendants of Paul Revere.

A commemorative service was also held to-light in the Young Men's Christian Union Hall, which was appropriately decorated with the national colors, while a picture-a painting representing a minute-man-adorned the platform. The speaker of the evening was the Hon. Richard Frothingham, a prominent member of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Mr. Frothingham described in detail the movements of the British Government, which led to the battles of Concord and Lexington, and the stirring events of the 19th of April, 1775. The idea impressed upon the audience was that, from the time of the Stamp act down to the day of the first bloodshed in the Revolution, the efforts of Massachusetts leaders were to secure unity and harmony among the colonies, that there might be one common country. He urged the young men of the Mr. Reynolds first gave a history of the church | present day never to lose sight of the fact that their country's glory was in this unity, and always to

> The Rev. James Freeman Clarke preached in the morning on the progress of a hundred years, the Rev. M. J. Savage of the Church of the Unity on a similar topic, and most of the city clergymen made reference to the great events at greater or less

[For Dr. Loring's Ocation, delivered in the Old North Church, see Third Page.]

PREPARING FOR THE FESTIVITIES IN BOSTON LARGE NUMBERS OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS IN BOSTON - REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS STATES-THE LEXINGTON DINNER-THE PRESI-

[BY TELEGRAPH FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.] Bosron, Mass., April 18 .- The number of distinguished people who have come, either to witness or take part in the Centennial exercises, has been largely increased by arrivals last night and this morning. The Washington party consists of President Grant and Vice-President Wilson, Secretaries Fish, Belknap, Robeson, and Delano, Postmaster General Jewell, and Gen. Babcock. These gentle men and the Hon. J. G. Blaine are to-day the guests of E. R. Hoar in Concord. South Carolina is represented by Gov. D. H. Chamberlain: Connecticut by Gov. Ingersoll and staff: Pennsylvania by the Hon. Samuel J. Randall, Director-General Goshorn of the Centennial Exposition, Mayor Stokley of Philadelphia, and others; New-York by Gen. P. H. Jones, Elliet C. Cowdin, A. A. Low, S. B. Chittenden, Thomas J. Creamer, and the Rev. Wm. Adams, D. D.; Virginia by President B. S. Ewell of William and Mary College, and Gen. S. C. Armstrong of the Hampton Institute. Among other well known gentlemen already on the ground are Senator Dawes, Gen. Joseph R. Hawley of Connecticut, Senator Boutwell, and Gen. N. P. Banks. The early trains to-morrow will bring in many more, including the Governors of several States. Govs. Ingersoll and Chamberlain have accepted an invitation to go to the scene of the celebration in a special train with Gov. Gaston and the members of the Massachusetts Legislature. Other Governors who may arrive before 8 o'clock to-morrow morning will be tendered the same courtesy. Gov. Chamberlain will respond, by special request

to the South Carolina sentiment which is to be proposed at the Lexington dinner. This entertainment will be the piece de resistance of the celebration in Lexington, and care will be taken that the invited guests shall not linger so long in Concord as to miss it. The invitations issued are very handsomely printed, and, while by no means suggestive of the simple tastes of colonial times, are not without a reminder of the bloody affair on Lexington Common. On one page is a representation of Jedediah Harring ton, one of the minute-men of 1775, who is supposed to be taking another shot at the enemy after having received a British bullet in his knee. The list of invited guests for this banquet comprises the President and Vice-President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Interior, the Attorney-General, the Postmaster-General, the United States Senators and Representatives in Congress from Massachusetts, Gov. Gaston, with members of his Council and Staff; officers of the United States Volunteers. Judges of the United States and State Courts, representative clergymen, Presidents of the Newrepresentatives of the business interests of the

country from various cities. The President expects to leave Boston on Tuesday

morning in time to dine in New-York on the evening of the same day. On Wednesday he will probably return to Washington.

THE PRESIDENT IN BOSTON.

RECEPTIONS AT THE REVERE HOUSE, THE SENATE CHAMBER AND THE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER.

[FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] Boston, April 17 .- The movements of the President and Cabinet to-day were of very little interest except to the few who saw them. There is everywhere a crowd that will stend in the streets half an hour, or three times as long if necessary, to catch a glimpse of a very ordinary-looking man whom they have seen before. It was just such a throng as this that crowded the square in front of the Revere House and besieged the State House corridors. The only feeling was one of curiosity, and the same gathering would have come with equal readiness to see a circus or a parade. There was no evidence of the slightest enthusiasm on the part of any one. The President gave a public reception, as announced, at 10:30 o'clock, but the work of the attendant policemen

Just before noon the party took carriages for the State House and ascended the long flight of steps between two ranks of the Independent Corps of Cadets. They prococceded to the Governor's room, where he was in waiting with his staff, and after a brief interchange of courtesles they were presented to the members of the Executive Council and the Judges of the Supreme Court, who came in under the escort of High Sheriff Clark. Vice-President Wilson, Gen. Banks, and the Hon. Rufus S. Frost of the Fourth District were also present. They soon left the Council Chamber for the Senate Chamber, which they entered through the center door, Senator Harwood coming first with the President, and the others following in the same order in which they entered the Executive apart-

Senator Harwood stopped just in front of the President's desk and said : "I have the honor of introducing to you the President of the United States."

The President of the United States."

The President of the Senate replied: "In behalf of the Senate over which I have the honor to preside, I welcome you to this Senate Chamber, and I congratulate the Senators that you have given them an opportunity of

paying their respects to you." A recess was then taken to enable the Senators to meet the visitors. The President of the Senate, the Hon. George B. Loring; descended to the floor and shook hands with the President, and Senator Harwood and other members of the Committee introduced the Senators as they filed into the open space to the President and the other visitors. The reception in the Senate Chamber lasted about 15 minutes, and at its close the party went directly to the House, which they entered a few minutes before I o'clock. The President was presented to the Speaker by Mr. Williams of the Legislative Committee. Speaker Sanford extended to the President and Cabinet a word of cordial welcome, after which he presented the President and the members of the Cabinet severally to the House, the members standing meanwhile. A recess was then declared, and the members were presented to the party by Speaker Sanford, the hand-shaking occupy-ing considerable time.

After leaving the State House, the party stopped at the armory of the National Lancers and the house of Fire Engine No. 4, a handsome building, which cost the city \$150,000. This is the crack engine company and the pet cavalry corps of the city, and in the stables of the former they showed the President one of the finest black spans in the city. This visit occupied so much time that it was almost 3 o'clock before they reached the hotel, and as the hour of their dinner with the Commercial Club was only half an hour later, the Massachusetts Club was compelled to put up with the Vice

Soon after reaching Parker's, the company, numbering about 150, marched arm-in-arm to the long dining-room, where a banquet was partaken of. The Hou. Alexander H. Rice, President of the Club, escorted President Grant, and the Hon. John H. Clifford escorted Secretary Robeon. Then came the Hon. Marshall Jewell, Secretary Beiknap, Secretary Delano, Col. Babcock, Vice-President Wilson, the Rev. Newman Hall of London, E. W. Kinsley, Alanson W. Beard, Collector Simmons, Gen. Burt, the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, Richard H. Dana, jr., Edward Atkinson, George O. Carpenter, Wm. H. Baldwin, Sheriff John M. Clark, and other members. They were hardly seated before a delegation of the Club, who had been sent to the depot to receive a committee from the New-York Chamber of Commerce, returned with their guests, eight in number. The first speaker, after dinner, was ex-Speaker Blaine, who made an interesting, humorous speech, saying that Massachusetts had behaved well since it was set off from Maine, about fifty years ago. No might have been if the States had continued to link their fortunes together. The Hon. E. R. Hoar made an earnest speech of welcome to the guests, and the Hon. Elliot C. Cowdin, Chairman of the New-York delegation, made a most eloquent and patriotic speech. Mr. James Alexander mude a few witty and effective remarks, and the feativities were prolonged until after 7 o'clock. The dinner over, the President and his party drove to the Revere House, and thence to the Fitchburg Station, where they took the train to Concord.

THE FIRE RECORD.

IN THE CITY.

A fire was discovered at a late hour on Saturday night in the fourth story of No. 171 Canal-st., which was occupied, with the fifth story, by J. W. Hamberger as an upholsterer's The damage was about \$1,500, and was covered by insurance. The second and third stories were occupied by Brown & Bliss as a factory for making baskets and extension tables, and their loss by water is about \$1,000. The first story was occupied as an undertaker's furnishing goods store by J. M. Shannahan, who loses about \$3,000 by water; insured. No. 169 Canal-st. was occupied by J. W. Hamberger as a storehonse for furniture, and the estimated loss on stock by water is about \$10,000; fully insured. The buildings are owned by James Ghes, and marged about \$1,000. This is also covered by insurance.

IN BOSTON-LOSS \$40,000. Boston, April 18 .- A fire broke out at 3:15 o'clock yesterday morning in the four-and-a-half-story brick building, corner of Franklin and Congress-sts. The fire caught in the upper story occupied as a lithographing hment. The other occupants were Clark & Warren, and Lamkin & Foster, boots and shoes, and Robert B. Denny, wood. The loss will reach at least \$40,000, mostly to stock, presses, etc., of Messrs. Armstrong & Co., lithographic establishment, who are insured for \$35,000, and estimate them loss as in excess of this amount. The building, which is valued at \$50,000, is not damaged above \$5,000.

IN STONY BROOK, L. I. A barn belonging to Mrs. A. Bayles, about a mile east of Stony Brook, L. L, was entirely destroyed

by fire on Friday night, together with a large quantity of hay, grain, and farming implements. The loss was \$2,000, with no insurance.

THE NEW-ORLEANS RACES.

NEW-ORLEANS, April 18 .- Yesterday was the sixth and last day of the Spring meeting of the Louisiana Jockey Club. The first race, one mile and a balf, for three-year-olds, was won cardly by Ascension by a length, Pauline Sprague second, Warfare third, beating Mignon and Mainsell. Time 2:43. The second race was wen by Sweet Bay, Puss Broadway second, Pauline Sprague third. Time, 1:45½. The third, four-mile heats, for all ages, was won by Falmouth, Galway second, Col. Nelligan third. Time, 7:45½, 7:48, 8:00½.

BOWDOIN COLLEGE AT THE UNIVERSITY RE-

BRUNSWICK, Me., April 1s .- The students of Bowdoin College have voted to send a six-oared crew to the University race at Saratoga in June. The crew pulled on the river yesterday morning for the first time

SUICIDE IN BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 18 .- George A. Ahrens, junior partner of the well-known firm of stirling, Abren-& Co., committed suicide yesterday by shooting himself with a pistol, in Druid Hill Park. No cause is assigned for the suicide.

RETURN OF THE BLACK HILLS MINERS. OMAHA, Neb., April 18 .- A company of cavalry, under command of Capt. Mix, arrived at Fort Larante to-day with the Harney's Peak miners. They had a bard trip and report much snaw and high waters. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

## WASHINGTON.

THE INDIAN RING'S CONTRACTS. CONDITIONS THAT HONEST CONTRACTORS FIND 130

POSSIBLE TO FULFILL-HOW RING CONTRACTOR

WASHINGTON, April 17 .- A short time age THE TRIBUNE called attention to an advertisement from the Indian Office calling for supplies of beef, in which the contractor who made the successful bid would be allowed only five days from the date of the contract in which to begin delivering the beef. It was also state that no person could fabili this condition except some on

in the Indian Ring who was sure of getting the contract, and had prepared beforehand to execute it.

The person who got the contract—J. W. L. Stavet—was not the lowest bidder, and it was known at the indian Office six days before the opening of the bids that he would get the contract. The advertisements for indian goods, supplies, &c., for the fiscal year ending Jun 30, 1876, now being published in the Administration oneurs, are also evidently drawn in the interests of the Indian Ring. It was deemed an important step toward honest administration by the old Board of Indian Comof flour, bacon, corn, pork, &c., to be made at designs cities, where the best men they could find were app as inspectors to see that the various articles delivered were in conformity with the sample contracted for; and

for "delivery at the agencies." This year, however, the old plan of delivery at the agencies has been resumed, and there can be no surer evidence of the real value of the late Board as a power in

evidence of the real value of the late Board as a power in the direction of economy, of the want of such power or inclination in the new Board appointed by Mr. Delano, and the fact that the efforts of the Department are all in the laterest of the Indian Ring.

By this plan of "delivery at the agencies" the contracter can send forward what he pleases, and the agent, even if housest, will be powerless to enforce a compliance with contracts. Just as the engineers or the canals in New-York State were forced to succamb to the Canal Ring, an homest Indian agent must hold his tongue and take what he gets, well knowing that there is no redress. No agent can successfully oppose the Indian Ring, he cause his superior officers are embraced in its mysterious circle. The advertisement for goods state that they will be subject to inspection by the Board of Indian Commissioners, and such articles as may in any respectful to comform to the samples will be rejected, and the contractor held to fornish others of the required qualit-within five days, or, failing in that, they will be puchased at his expense."

contractor held to forms in the soft the required point within five days, or, failing in that, they will be pochased at his expense."

This clause is evidently intended to frighten off all weed on not know that it will not be enforced. The Commissioner of indian Affairs knows that blankels of the periliar kind required for the Indian office as given in the acvertisement, marked "U. S. L. D.," are manufactured especially to fill the contract; that no manufacturer could supply the number required to replace a rejected lot in five days, and that after rejecting these furnished by incontractor under his contract, no one close could furnish "others of the required quality" in that time.

Similarly, in the case of four, wheat, bacon, corn, and pork, no lenest man will risk rejection "at the agencies under the existing regime in the futerior Departures, where, as The Tribune has heretofore shown, the present Rug has held the contracts for several years—in facting the appointment of the present Secretary of the Interior. If evidence were needed that the officers of the Government who are authorized by law to make the Indian contracts are themselves interested in opporting horest competition, these altertisements furnish ampio proof of the fact.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.
THE QUADRUPLEX TELEGRAPH CONTROVERSY.

The Edison quadruplex telegraph controversy has assumed a new phase. Mr. Edison originally assigned an interest in his invention to George Present and a joint application was made for a patent. Mr. Prescutt agreed to assign to the Western Union Telegraph Company his interest in the patent, but the Autor graph Company claimed the whole benefit of the inven-tion through a contract with Mr. Edison. An application was made to the Secretary of the Interior to induce him to overrule the decision of the Commissioner of Patents and to make Mr. Edison the sole patentee. The appeal was made by George Harrington, who also claims to be Mr. Edison's assignee. His counsel, W. B. Chandles and J. H. B. Latrobe, contended on Priday that Mr. Edison's assignee. His counsel, W. B. Chandler and J. H. B. Latrobe, contended on Priday that the Secretary had jurisdiction in this case. Gen. Butler, counsel for Mr. Edison, insisted that the patent should issue to his ellent alone on the ground that, whatever may have been his arrangement with Mr. Proceed, it was in the noture of a partnership, which had been dissolved by the withdrawal of Mr. Edison without his having received a dollar from Mr. Present for any interest in it. The patent should not be granted to Messrs, Edison and Prescott conjointly, as the Commissioner of Patents recently ordered, but that it should be issued to Edison, leaving any equities which might be claimed to exist by virtue of assignments to be adjudiented by the courts. Senator Conking replied at once, raising the question of the Secretary of the Interior's jurisdiction over the matter. He contended that the decisions of the Commissioner of Patents are absolutely final as to all purely executive questions. He denied that the Secretary of the Interior had any jurisdiction whatever over any questions relating to patents.

Gen. Entler and Leonard Myers replied by citing decisions of the Sapreme Court and the usage of the Patent Office respecting the matter of assignments. Secretary Delano in postponing his decision, said: "I recognize the fact that to the Commissioner is intrusted, in the first instance, the duty of examining and deciding upon all questions that arise before him in his office, and are presented to him; but I am unable to bring my luind to the conclusion that it would be my duty to sign a patent, because in his best judgments had deciding when the first instance, the duty of examining and deciding upon all questions that arise before him in his office, and are presented to him; but I am unable to bring my luind to the conclusion that it would be my duty to sign a patent, because in his best judgments had deciding upon all questions that arise before him in his office, and are presented to him; but I am unable to b

MILITARY POWER TO BE TESTED.

The five members of the Louisiana Legislature who were ejected from their scate by Gen. de 4th of January last, have begun suits against those two officers for \$100,000 damages, and the cases will be tried in the United States Circuit Court, Judge Woods presiding, at its Spring term, in New-Orleans, beginning on the fourth Monday in April. The delense of Gens. Sheridan and de Trobriand will be conducted on behalf of the United States Government by the firm of Emmons. Burnett & Hammond of New-York, these gentlemes having been designated by the Atterney-General for this having been designated by the Attorney-General for this duty. The trial of this case will be very important and interesting, as it involves the decision of the question whether the United States Government has the right, even at the request of the Governor of a State, to interfere in the organization of a Legislature. The case is likely to go to the Supreme Court for final adjudication, whichever way the verdict in Judgo Woods's court may be.

EXAMINATION OF BANK CHECKS.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in view of the differences of opinion between the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and the Controller of the Currency as to the examinution of National banks for the discovery of un-stamped checks, has decided upon a method which will be satisfactory to all parties, and acceptable to the banks. The banks were opposed to having Internal Revenue officers, without experience in bank affurs, overhaul their papers and exercise an espionage on their business, thus throwing open their affairs to two classes of officers—the bank examiners and Internal Revenue officers. The decision of the Bolichtor of the Treasury, officers. The decision of the Solicitor of the Archardy, which was to the effect that the law authorised an examination by the revenue officers, will be so for modified as to require the bank examiners to make the investigation as to whether all elecks are properly stamped at the same time they are making their regular inspections.

THE UNION PACIFIC BAILROAD SUIT. Argument will be heard before the United States Court of Claims to-morrow in the suit of the Union Pacific Rallroad Company against the United States to recover a sum of money which it claims due it for transportution of supplies and mails. The Company claim, the money under the sixth section of the act of Congress of July 12, 1862, creating the Company, and also under the fifth section of an amendment to the act, passed July 2, 1864. In the first act there occur these words: "All compensation for services rendered for the Government shall be applied to the payment of said bonds and interest." The amendment, the Company claims, requires the Company to apply one-half of the compensation for services rendered to the Government to the payment of bonds issued by the Government in aid of the construction of the road. The Government in ruply denies the Company's interpretation of the section cooted, and alleges that the Company is indebted to the United States for the interest on the bonds to an amount exceeding the claim of the petitioner. recover a sum of money which it claims due it for trans

EX-CONGRESSMAN BOWEN'S LIBEL SUITS. CHARLESTON, S. C., April 18 .- The fire eriminal prosecution of a newspaper for libel ever knows in South Carolina begins to-morrow at the instance of an Congression Bowen, now Sheriff of Charleston. Means Blordan and Howson of The News and Courier as to be tried upon eight indictments for publication extending through several years, and covering charge against flowen of francis, higanay, torgery, and instigating murder. The indictment based upon the publication implicating Bowen in mursler will be tried first. Greet until laterest is felt in the case.